DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



February 14, 1996

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE

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REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL	
[]	State Law Change
[]	Federal Law or Regulation
	Change
[]	Court Order or Settlement
	Agreement
[]	Clarification Requested by
	One or More Counties
[X]	Initiated by CDSS

TO:

ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT:

ISB PUBLICATIONS ON THE INTERNET

The Information Services Bureau (ISB) is developing an Internet Server System. This will allow our customers to access and download a selection of ISB's current publications electronically. Currently, ISB distributes copies of publications through the mail, and it can take up to a month for them to reach our customers because of the administrative processes they must go through at the State and in the counties. With electronic communication available, this manual method of distribution has become inefficient and expensive. Internet is a more efficient means for distributing management information.

All levels of government are exploring the convenience and cost-saving benefits of electronic communication. We encourage you to take the necessary steps to obtain Internet access and take advantage of the convenience, lower cost and faster transmission of data that electronic communication offers. Some of the required software is available free of charge. If your county is not equipped to access Internet (i.e., modem, on-line service, etc.), these expenses may be included in your proposed county administrative budget for Fiscal Year 1996-97.

The thrust of this new strategy is convenience for our customers. Providing Internet access to ISB publications will help us serve you better by providing immediate access to relevant information. ISB information can be queried, printed, or copied. Data can also be downloaded into a word processing or spreadsheet application for your own use. We are confident that counties will find this flexibility invaluable. For instance, counties will be able to respond quickly to management inquiries regarding their performance in relation to statewide averages.

Having ISB's publications readily available on the Internet will strengthen the Department's goal to serve California's needy and vulnerable children and adults by providing essential information to those organizations charged with aiding and protecting them. In addition, it will enhance ISB's mission to be a central resource for accurate and meaningful information.

We anticipate implementation of this process by May 1, 1996, and will send out a subsequent All-County Information Notice to counties prior to that date with more specific instructions and guidelines.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Cindy Halverstadt at (916) at 653-5245 or Marjorie Mar Liu at (916) 653-7170.

JARVIO A. GREVIOUS Deputy Director Administration Division

c: CWDA